POWER OF CONGRESS

TO FINE AND IMPRISON WITNESSES.

Justice Miller's Decision on the Inquisitorial Impertinence of Either House—The Case of Hallet Kilbourn and the Judgment of the Supreme Court.

The New York *Herald* says editorially:

The important decision just delivered by the Supreme Court, through Justice Miller, is of great interest to the people and the press of the United States. It erects a bulwark around the rights of citizens which will hereafter protect them against the inquisitorial impertinence of either House of Congress and against illegal punishment for refusing to answer questions on which a congressional committee has no right to insist. The case came up from an inferior court on a writ of error, the plaintiff in error, Hallet Kilbourn, having sued Speaker Randall, Sergeant-at-Arms Thompson, and others for false imprisonment. The case was decided against Kilbourn in the court below, whose judgment has now been reversed by the Supreme Court. Henceforward witnesses subpoenaed before a congressional committee cannot be imprisoned for a refusal to testify, or, if they should be, a Federal court will immediately discharge them from custody on a

WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS.

The exceptions to this decision are the very few cases in which either of the two Houses is required to act in a judicial capacity, impeachment and judging of the election of members being the only exceptions specified in this decision of the Supreme Court. The two Houses are at last taught that they do not possess a roving commission to make inquisitions into the private affairs of citizens and to fine and imprison them for refusing to answer questions which a committee of Congress has no right to ask.

IT WAS TIME THAT A STOP

should be put to the odious and unwarranted authority which committees of Congress have of late years assumed. Their arrogant impertinence had become intolerable to the thinking part of the public, and it is a subject for general congratulation that their insolence has been rebuked by an authority whose condemnation cannot be resisted. These smelling committees have seemed to think that there was no legal limit to their right to intermeddle in the affairs of citizens, to pry into their business arrangements, to invade their personal secrets, to release them from all pledges of confidence, and to give national publicity to matters which individuals may have motives for concealing. These insolent committees have made raids on the telegraph offices and captured confidential dispatches; they have rifled the business secrets of their victims; they

HAVE COMMITTED OUTRAGES.

on the sacred relations of domestic life; they have assailed the liberty of the press by making it unsafe for correspondents to accept information in confidence, lest they should be hauled up before one of these inquisitorial committees and compelled to take their choice between a Government dungeon and the violation of their pledges. We rejoice that their assumed right to perpetrate such outrages has been brought to a hearing before a tribunal that is competent to pass upon it, and that this high tribunal has had the independence to render a just decision and protect the legitimate privacy of citizens against congressional impertinence and insolence.

IT SEEMS TO US

that the press is especially bound to recognize the virtue of the Supreme Court in making this important decision. We do not here refer to the duty of the press to stand up for popular rights against official invasion (although this view is not to be forgotten), but to the relief which this decision gives to the agents of the press from the terrorism of congressional intimidation. The people have a right to the information which the press supplies, and it is for their interest that the sources of intelligence be unobstructed. Newspaper correspondents in whose probity and reticence official persons have confidence are trusted with a great deal of secret information, with liberty to publish some things, with an injunction to suppress others which are communicated merely to guide their judgment and save them from falling into errors.

WHEN THEY PUBLISH THE THINGS

which they are permitted to publish, it is usually with a reservation that they are to conceal the sources of their knowledge. Every honorable correspondent and the journal which employs him feels bound to respect such understandings, on the faith of which they were trusted with information which they could not otherwise obtain. But heretofore every committee of Congress has claimed the power to dissolve such obligations and to extort from newspaper men secrets which they have pledged their honor that they will not divulge. If the correspondent is firm enough to brave the terror of imprisonment rather than forfeit his word the distant editors of the journal are subpoenaed to Washington and plied with all sorts of impertinent questions respecting the affairs of the establishment, with the same menace of imprisonment brandished over their heads. Such outrages on decency, honor, and private rights have been too frequent. We thank the Supreme Court, in the name of the press, that it has made their repetition impossible.

THE DEMURRER OF

Messrs. Randall, Thompson *et al.* to the suit of Mr. Kilbourn was to the effect that the power to imprison a contumacious witness results from what is called parliamentary law. But Justice Miller shows that the English parliamentary precedents are inapplicable in this country, and that the powers of the two Houses of Congress are to be sought only in the Constitution. Either House may punish its own members, because that power is expressly granted; but the Constitution is equally explicit in declaring that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law. The arbitrary will of one House of Congress is not due process of law. No witness is bound to answer questions put by a congressional committee unless the subject is within its lawful jurisdiction. Justice Miller,

SPEAKING FOR THE COURT, SAYS:

"We are sure that no person can be punished for contumacy as a witness before either House, unless his testimony is required in a matter into which that House has jurisdiction to inquire, and we feel equally sure that neither of these bodies possesses the general power of making inquiry into the private affairs of the citizen."

These words deserve to be written in letters of gold as a precious monument of the liberties of American citizens.

Justice Miller shows, with perfect clearness and precision, that the affairs of the Washington real-estate pool, about which Kilbourn refused to testify, were not within the jurisdiction of the House of Representatives. He says: "In looking to the preamble and resolution under which the committee acted, before which Mr. Kilbourn refuse to testify, we are of opinion that the House of Representatives not only exceeded the limit of its own authority, but assumed a power which could only be properly exercised by another branch of the government, because the power was in its nature clearly judicial.

WHAT WAS THIS COMMITTEE

charged to do? To inquire into the nature and history of the real-estate pool. What was the real-estate pool? Is it charged, with any crime or offense? If so, the courts alone can punish the members of it. Is it charged with a fraud against the Government? Here, again, the courts, and they alone, can afford a remedy. Was it a corporation whose powers Congress could repeal? There is no suggestion of the kind. Can the rights of the pool, or of its members, and the rights of the debtor, and of the creditor of the debtor, be determined by the report of a committee or by an act of Congress? If they cannot, what authority has the House to enter upon this investigation into the private affairs of individuals who hold no office under the Government? There can be no valid answer to this reasoning; but as mere reasoning it could only command the respect due a conclusive argument. What makes it so important is the fact that it is a judicial decision rendered by a court from whose judgment there is no appeal. It is an authoritative and binding interpretation of the Constitution, interposing the ægis of judicial protection between all citizens and oppressive and unwarranted assumptions of power under a false and odious pretense of parliamentary law.

A Terrible Shipwreck.

Pietro Sala, a native of Trieste, the sole survivor of the Italian bark Agneo, from Antwerp to New York, which was wrecked on Rockaway Shoals, was brought to the Italian consul's office in New York Saturday, and made a verbal statement of the terrible disaster and loss of life by Friday's storm. Heavy wind and rain, he said, commenced about four o'clock, and soon the vessel began to leak badly, and a few hours later the captain determined to run ashore, and for that purpose put her before the wind. She became water-logged and moved very slowly, and when the boat was struck heavy seas washed over her continually; one by one the men were carried away until but five were left. These were huddled together near the after gangway. They were in danger of being washed overboard every minute, and after a consultation the four first named concluded to cut their throats, one remarking that drowning was an awful death. After the deed was done Sala and two others replied that they thought it the best way to die. All were lying on deck, and Sala says they were alive when washed overboard. He could not say how Captain Frederick Merici lost his life, but supposes he was washed overboard. Shortly after the men were washed away the vessel broke up, and Sala clung to a portion of the cabin until picked up by his rescuers.

HIS OLD CLASSMATES.

An Interesting Occasion at the White House.

Immediately after the review last Friday President Garfield received the Washington Williams College Association, with visiting alumni, at the Executive Mansion. The venerable Dr. Mark Hopkins, ex-president of Williams College, was leader and spokesman of the association. Dr. Hopkins stood near the central window, on the south side of the East Room, surrounded by the alumni, as President Garfield advanced from the inner corridor to greet him. "President Garfield," was all the patriarch could say. "If I am in any sense your President you are much more my President." This greeting was returned with an affectionate hand-shake. Dr. Hopkins then formally congratulated the President, first for himself personally, then for the alumni, in a speech of characteristic eloquence. Dr. Hopkins congratulated himself on being the only college president who had seen one of his students attain to the presidency of the United States. He spoke of the interest and pride with which he had watched General Garfield's career ever since he had left his alma mater. He spoke of the sympathy and interest with which the alumni looked upon his coming administration, and of the personal honor put upon them by the General's exaltation, "and for this exaltation we render thanks to God Almighty," was pronounced with such depth of loving solemnity that tears stood unbidden in every eye. General Garfield then replied in a speech of much beauty and feeling. He greeted Dr. Hopkins as his intellectual father and the tall, bright peak illuminated with spiritual refulgence by whose light he had walked now these many years. He continued by expressing his indebtedness to the college and his pleasure on receiving their congratulations. Her alumni were then presented to President and Mrs. Garfield and Mrs. Colonel Rockwell. There were present Supreme Judge Dewey, of Massachusetts; Hon. J. White, of Massachusetts; Charles A. Davison, of New York city; James A. Briggs, of New York city; Judge Nott, United States Court of Claims; Hon. Ferris Jacobs, Representative Twenty-first District of New York; United States Treasurer Gilfillan; Colonel A. F. Rockwell, United States Quartermaster's Department; Colonel A. Hopkins, Clerk Court of Claims; L. U. Calkins, of Springfield, Massachusetts; Rev. J. G. Ames, Washington, D. C.; J. H. Doughty, Mattewan, New York; Rev. W. L. Hayden, Washington, Pa; General H. N. Eldridge, of Chicago; Colonel D. M. Evans, Philadelphia Mint; J. E. Fay, Chicago; S. P. Hubbell, Champlain, N. Y.; H. E. Knox, New York city; R. J. Mitchell, Washington; John Pingree, Auburn, N. Y.; Lieutenant-Colonel H. Root, Whitehall, N. Y.; Professor Frank Slichard, Rev. E. C. Smith, Philadelphia; Hon. J. T. Steadman, Iowa; Hon. Samuel Williams, Philadelphia; Professor L. Wilson, Dr. G. Yeomans, Philadelphia; C. W. Alesbee, Michigan; J. M. Killits, Iowa; Orrin Day, Katskill, N. Y.; J. B. Taylor, J. S. Pober, W. B. Roberts, J. B. T. Tupper, E. B. Taylor, L. Sargent and R. E. Jones, of Washington, and others whose names were not obtained. Some of the association were accompanied by ladies. Senator Blaine was present, and was introduced to the association. Seventeen of the visiting alumni were General Garfield's classmates of the class of 1856.

The Pharisee's Prayer.

To the Editor of The Republican.

When Christ was on earth he was a great composer of fiction; but every story had its moral and was a sermon in itself. Every one of them, too, possessed the true poetical element that presents a picture to the mind of the reader. There is one, however, that to my notion excels all the others in this; and that is the story of the Pharisee and the Publican praying in the Temple. I close my eyes and I see a stately form, standing with head erect, hands outspread, and eyes looking proudly upward, his very pose proclaiming his many excellencies before he utters a word of the very long list, which began thus, "God, I thank Thee that I am not as other men are," and ended, "Even as this Publican." His attitude, also, proclaims even more than his words, for one can read in the haughty arrogance of his whole bearing the private opinion which he entertains that he is doing God considerable honor in all this, and that in his heart he feels that his Creator is and ought to be infinitely obliged to him. But the poor Publican, "standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes into Heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, 'God be merciful to me, a sinner.'" Can you not see him, friends? Look at the downcast face, lined and seamed with sin, and shame, too, perhaps. What a contrast it makes to the other, with its clean record of a life spent in rectitude! Yet Christ said: "I tell you this man went down to his house justified rather than the other." This picture was called up afresh one day by a glance I caught as it was bestowed upon one woman by another passing her on the street. The glance said, "Stand aside; I am more holy than thou;" and as the fair, jeweled hand held her skirts aside, lest they should touch the other, I looked, and behold the Pharisee was standing in the temple, scorning the Publican still, though nearly two thousand years have passed since both Pharisee and Publican have gone to meet the God to whom they prayed. The woman thus scorned was a Magdalene. Her face was sad, and seemed to me almost repentant; and yet she was on the street at that moment seeking opportunities to sin. I know the man who gave her the chance, too, telegraphing her as he stood pretending to be absorbed by the contents of a show-window, as she made the same pretense at another; at least I know exactly the seat he occupies in the House of Representatives, and, as I saw him carelessly approach her, and then follow her out of sight—he an old gray-haired man, and she a penniless girl, not yet out of her teens, with that look of repentance in her face—my heart cried: "How long, O Lord, how long," and I felt a mighty yearning in me to save all such girls. I felt something else, too; for my fingers fairly worked to get their loving grip on that gray-haired villain's throat. I looked to see if there was blood on my hands, *a la* Macbeth—I felt so much like a murderer. I cannot think of that girl to this day without an ache in my heart, for the pitiful child looked hungry. The proud dame who swept by her, holding her skirts from contamination, did not look hungry, though the glow on her cheek and the light in her eye told their own tale of the warm nest she had found in life. She was the wife, in worldly parlance, of one of our money kings, a disgusting, unlovable old man, with a face so encrusted with dollars that the soul never more can peep through; a man without one single trait to win a woman's heart, even without the chasm half a century wide between them. This female Pharisee could thank God that she was not like many other women; not a single imprudence, even, had laid a blot upon the fair countenance lifted so proudly toward heaven. Yes, she was not like the wicked Magdalene, whose contact she avoided. The best pew in the church was opened to her, and the preacher, at least, felt himself honored by her presence, if God did not. Yet, reader mine, let me ask you in all candor, where is the difference between those two women? Honestly, I fail to see any, unless there be a little in favor of the poor sinner, who lives in sin because the world gives her no other means of living, and who does not make a mockery of God's holy ordinance of matrimony, at any rate.

MOUSE-IN-THE-CORNER.

That "Racy Retrospect."

To the Editor of the Republican:

There are some errors in your "Racy Retrospect" of Friday which, if you please, might as well be corrected. It was not John Marron who made the witty answer to the Postmaster-General that the Post-Office Department might get along without him, but that he could not get along very well without the Department. It was Postmaster-General Collamer who put the question to Mr. James H. Marr, then a $1,200 clerk, and now chief clerk of the appointment office, and Mr. Marr answered as above stated, without the "damned," for he never uses such expletives. Again, our Commissioner, Josiah Dent, not his father, is the gentleman who held a clerkship in that Department in 1843, and the name printed, "A. N. Treerely," was no doubt meant for A. N. Zevely, afterward appointed Third Assistant Postmaster-General in place of the efficient and genial John Marron, who died in March, 1859, within one or two days only of that on which Postmaster-General Aaron V. Brown died. Of those who were in the Department in 1843 I think the only survivors are James H. Marr, James Lawrenson, and Chauncey Smith, who are still there, and Dr. John Hunter, private secretary to W. W. Corcoran, esq.; Josiah Dent, George A. Bohrer, A. N. Zevely, and Horatio King, of this city; Dr. N. C. Towle, of Brookline, Mass., and Mr. Nicholas Halter, now over eighty years of age, who resides, I believe, in Pennsylvania, although many years a farmer in Iowa after he left the Department. William H. Dundas, one of the most competent officers of the Department, was promoted from an $800 clerkship to Second Assistant Postmaster-General, and died in office on the 24th of January, 1861. H. K.

Deep Devotion.

"Dearest Harold, I love you with all the deep devotion of my sex. Your image is ineffaceably engraven on the tablets of my memory, and in my heart the love I bear for you can never, and in my heart the love I bear for you can never, never die. But I am extravagant, wildly ambitious to shine in society, to sit beside the jeweled queens of fashion, to dazzle all eyes with priceless gems; and so, dear Harold, I must marry the plumber."

ABOUT THE MESSAGE.

VIEWS OF SEVERAL STATESMEN.

Mr. Stephens, Senator Conger, and Others on the Inaugural Message—The General Opinion Expressed That It Is a Good Document—Stalwart Sentiments.

The inauguration of the new administration has been the main topic of conversation among the men who make and record public opinion. With a view of getting at the impression made upon the leading men of the two parties by the inaugural address of President Garfield reporters of THE REPUBLICAN sought to interview as many of each as possible. This was found to be a ask of considerable difficulty, owing to the fact that statesmen, like common mortals, partook of the general joyous excitement that pervaded the city, and, like others, were abroad to see the sights and share the pleasures of the evening. The responses made to the reporters were, "Gone to the ball," "Out with friends," "Gone to see the fireworks," &c. A few, however, were found at their regular places, and others were caught on the fly, as it were. Among the "home-bodies" was

SENATOR CONGER,

who, in reply to the question,

"What is your opinion of the inaugural address?" said:

"I think the brief review of the formation and growth of our Government and its progress to the present time is expressed in as beautiful language and fervency of expression as can be found in any history, essay, or oration ever delivered. The assertion of the Nation's supremacy and its laws forever established by reason, logic, and the final decision and arbitrament of that last appeal, 'the high court of war,' is asserted so positively and absolutely as to gratify the most Stalwart Republican in the land. The condition and prospects of the negro race, the supreme advantage of their liberation from slavery to both master and slave, the removal of dishonor from labor by removing the degradation and inferiority of the laborer, are all presented with remarkable clearness and force, and will command the assent of all thoughtful men in the North and in the South. No part of the message is more gratifying to me than the assertion of the absolute equality of American citizenship. It strikes the key-note of the contest that is now being waged, and presents, with bold and manly affirmation, the principles underlying our Republican creed, to secure which the grandest efforts of the noblest party that has ever stood forth the champion of equal rights and equal citizenship are now, as they ever have been, directed. It asserts that American citizenship, when conferred upon the most lowly and humble in the land, is broad enough and strong enough to place the subject upon the broad plane of absolute political equality with the richest, the loftiest, and most powerful citizen of the realm; that there is not and never shall be in our republic two classes of citizens—the proud and the domineering above, the lowly and depressed beneath—but all shall stand together under the Constitution and laws of this grand Nation absolutely equal in all the rights and privileges of American citizenship. It demands universal education and moral elevation for all alike, and commends itself equally to the statesman and the philanthropist. In these respects the sentiments of the message will meet a hearty response of every Republican, and will be especially gratifying to the most stalwart men of our party. I consider this message one of the most eloquent, philosophic, and statesmanlike papers ever presented by any President for the consideration of the American people. I am gratified beyond expression that our gallant leader has so nobly expressed and so positively asserted the grand principles which bind the Republic together in the present as they have in the past."

THE HON. A. H. STEPHENS

was another of the statesmen found at home, and in reply to the same question said:

"I consider it," said Mr. Stephens, "eminently conservative and patriotic. President Garfield looks to the future, and not to the past, and counsels conciliation upon the principle of a maintenance of the powers of the Government as conferred by the Constitution, with a due regard to the reserved rights of the people retained by the States. Ours is a complex system of government, the like of which has no prototype in history. The supremacy of the central Government over all subjects intrusted to it by the people in the Constitution is absolute. This, President Garfield maintains, is right in principle, and those powers of local self-government which are reserved by the people he also very clearly maintains, so that this wonderful complex system may be administered for the welfare, happiness, and prosperity of the entire people throughout the length and breadth of the land. The most striking feature on this point is that in which he advises the forgetting in the future those differences which have so much disturbed the harmony of the past and are pressing forward toward those new questions upon which the future prosperity and well-being of the entire country is involved."

HON. WILLIAM R. MORRISON,

when asked what he thought of it, said:

"Good, very good; only I think the other man ought to have delivered it."

"Hancock?"

"Certainly. I would have preferred to have heard an inaugural from a Democratic President, but I have no fault to find with that of General Garfield. It is good from his standpoint and that of his party, and as a literary production is very fine."

HON. BEN. BUTTERWORTH,

of Ohio, was enthusiastic in his commendations of both the letter and spirit of the address, and predicted for the new administration a success such as had been attained by few if any party in the past.

HON BENJAMIN LE FEVRE

thought the inaugural one of the best in point of literary excellence ever delivered, and believed that President Garfield had clothed in perfect language the prevailing and governing ideas of the party which elected him.

HON. FRANK E. BELTZHOOVER

said: "Only Jefferson's and Lincoln's inaugurals can be compared with it as literary productions, but with many of its sentiments and ideas I have but little sympathy. I know Garfield to be a man of great intellectual power, but have not the faith in his sincerity and honesty of purpose entertained by many of the leading men of the Democratic party."

In the peregrinations of THE REPUBLICAN emissaries one of them ran across a very Stalwart Southern-born Republican in the person of

GENERAL W. M. LEDWITH,

of Florida, the gentleman who ran for Lieutenant-Governor on the ticket with ex-Senator Conover last fall. In reply to the stereotyped question of what he thought of the President's address, General Ledwith said:

"I think it an excellent address, and means that we shall have a Republican administration in fact as well as in name."

"What about a Southern representative in the Cabinet? Whom do the Southern Republicans want?"

"If we could have our choice we would name Judge Thomas Settle. What we want, however, is a Republican from the South who has been identified with the interests of the people, and whose only claim to recognition is that of having once resided in that section. We want a man who has been in the thick of the fight, and who has staid there since, and who intends to stay there and fight it out, regardless of the result. With such a man in the Cabinet the Republican party of the South would feel that it had the sympathy and support of the administration, and such a selection would infuse new life into the organization and give them the courage born of the hope of fulfillment of promises made, such as the administration just deceased failed to effect."

De Lesseps' Canal.

A recent steamer arrival from France to Panama has added twenty-eight gentlemen of various professions to the number already on the Isthmus in the interest of M. De Lesseps's canal scheme. These include engineers, mechanics, medical men, &c. Six working parties are now on the line, and are making some progress, now that such important matters as providing for their accommodation in anything better and more permanent than common tents have been attended to. So far the principal difficulty encountered has been with their laborers. These drawn from the surplus on the Isthmus, after the railway and various steamship companies are supplied—and they pay higher rates than the canal people—are neither first-class in quality nor abundant in quantity. The other day the laborers connected with two of the surveying parties refused to continue at the terms offered, $20 per month and board. The men alleged that they were compelled to work on Sunday, under penalty of being left without food for the day; but the employers deny this statement, and affirm that they wished the men to remain in camp on Sunday, instead of visiting neighboring villages, whence they invariably returned drunk and disorderly, almost universally unfitted to work on the following day, thus losing two days in the week. The canal people remained firm in resisting the men's demands, and the latter backed down. Offers have been made of a large number of Jamaicans, Carthegena people, and others at favorable rates. The demand for the year will, however, not exceed five hundred men.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

Charlottesville is to have a hook-and-ladder company.

Mr. James Kern, one of the oldest citizens of Winchester, is dead.

James Saunders, an old citizen of Norfolk, died from paralysis last week.

There are 1,300 men employed at the Tredegar Iron Works, in Richmond.

Sixteen Indians have arrived at Hampton, to be educated at the Normal High School.

Captain James F. Gibbs, of the steamer Breakwater, of the Old Dominion Line, is dead.

Granville Dawson, master of the sloop Wainwright, was drowned at Dutch Gap last Friday.

The District Grange of Northern Virginia will hold its next session in Alexandria on March 2.

A handsome sum has been raised at the University of Virginia in behalf of the Poe memorial fund.

Mr. Thomas H. Clagett, of the Loudoun bookstore, has been paralyzed and rendered speechless.

Mr. Samuel B. Witt has been appointed commonwealth attorney of Richmond, vice Hon. George D. Wise.

Ex-Governor James L. Kemper has been suffering from the effects of his wound received at Gettysburg.

The fruit growers of Clarke County say that the peach, plum, apricot, and cherry crops have been winter-killed.

At Williamson's last Friday a white barkeeper named Pugh shot and instantly killed a colored barber named Burrell.

The State Agricultural Society will hold a grand fair on the fair grounds near Richmond during the Yorktown Centennial.

Virginia members of Congress are sending large quantities of cotton-seed to the planters of the south-side counties of that State.

J. Q. Bass, a Henry County planter, sold 1,478 pounds of leaf tobacco in Danville a few days ago, at an average of $47 per hundred.

The Methodists at Leesburg are having a very spicy controversy over the ownership of certain property, said to belong to the church.

The Rev. William N. Ward, one of the oldest of the Episcopal clergy of Virginia, died at his home in Richmond County on Friday last.

Miss Alice Astrop, of Lee County, seventeen years of age, having been betrayed, committed suicide last week by drowning herself in the river.

In the United States court at Richmond the jury in the case of the indicted judges of election in Manchester failed to agree and were discharged.

It is said the counsel for the trustees in the Atlantic, Mississippi, and Ohio Railroad case will receive a fee of $75,000, and the master of the court $10,000.

The rush of freight at Norfolk is reported to be greater than has been known for years, the rows of trucks waiting to deliver goods extending at times for two miles.

General Roger A. Pryor has accepted the invitation from the literary societies of Richmond College to deliver the address at their celebration at the close of the session.

The quantity of iron-ore arriving at Lynchburg for shipment per the Virginia Midland Railroad is now so great that it is impossible to provide the necessary transportation for it.

The wife of Wilson Fowlkes (colored) has been sentenced to be hanged in Lunenburg County, Virginia, for murdering her husband. She brained him with an axe while he was asleep.

John Williamson, janitor of the court-house at Petersburg, has been arrested, charged with the theft of a number of canceled coupon bonds, amounting to about $1,000, stolen from the auditor's office.

The big "porker," bred and owned by Mr. James Dugan, of Berkeley County, is the largest hog in the United States, and is a real curiosity. It will weigh 1,200 pounds, and is about the size of an Alderney cow.

Frank Trigg, jr., a worthy and intelligent colored man, has been appointed principal of the Polk-street colored school, at Lynchburg, to succeed Miss Fanny Harvey (white), who has been promoted to the Jackson street school.

MARYLAND NEWS.

Judge D. R. Magruder has taken up his residence at Marlboro'.

The two-year-old child of Charles Hitt, of Cumberland, was burned to death last Tuesday

Alphonso Prieur has sold his farm, 228 acres, near Frederick, to George H. Rizer, for $100 per acre.

Samuel Davis has sold to Barbara Trundle, for $5,400, 297½ acres of land in Montgomery County.

The Pearl hominy mills, Baltimore, were burned last Thursday morning, involving a loss of $100,000.

Over $10,000 have been received as subscriptions to the capital stock of the new Frostburg Hotel Company.

Mr. J. Grattan Hagner, a former tutor of St. John's College, at Annapolis, has accepted a position as civil engineer in Mexico.

Ex-Senator Dennis, of Maryland, has a large salt-water pond, where he raises terrapin, and from which he gets a large income.

The grasshoppers are reported as abundant and lively on the Glading farm, in Elk Neck, having survived the intense wintry cold.

Mr. L. Ware, of Brookville, had his trunk broken open and robbed last week. The thief was captured and lodged in the Rockville jail.

Taylor Harriss and Mrs. Mary Ann Jackson, of Montgomery County, have been declared to be insane, and sent to the Maryland hospital.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company is experimenting with a plan to heat their passenger cars by steam from the boilers of the locomotives.

William Jensen, Ezekiel Williams, William Warren, and Emil Rouge have been acquitted of the charge of grave-robbing in the Baltimore cemetery.

Mrs. Mary Joyce, aged seventy-six years, wife of Rev. Henry Joyce, died at Gambrill's Station, on the Annapolis and Elkridge Railroad, last week, of paralysis.

Rev. James B. Avirett, of Sandy Springs Parish, Montgomery County, Maryland, has been called to the charge of an important work in the diocese of Mississippi.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company have brought two suits against the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for damages, laid at $500,000 each, growing out of detention of trains.

Three colored men, who had missed a train at Hopewell, on the Eastern Shore Railroad, a few days since, ran the four miles to Marion, and, having overtaken the train, purchased their tickets and got on board.

Governor Hamilton has issued his proclamation readjusting the representation in the House of Delegates of Maryland, based on the census returns of 1880. Seven counties gain each one member of the House, viz; Anne Arundel, Charles, Harford, Queen Anne's, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester.

A Polar Wave in the Tropics.

The 10th of February will be remembered in Antigua as the occasion of a frost the heaviest in the memory of man, occasioning damage the like of which has no record in the history of the country since the conquest by the Spaniards. The cold wave seems to have come from the north, traversing the Cordilleras through Mexico. The tropical fruits and crops withered away at its touch as before a devouring flame. In the department of Sacatepequese every hacienda has been more or less injured. The force of the disaster fell on that part of the valley where is situated the estate of Retana, taking in the portion of the valley which contained the most numerous and highly cultivated estates of the department. The new and beautiful estates in the Cantano Calvario have also suffered, but the loss is less and can be more easily repaired than on the older and more prosperous estates. Several years must elapse before the coffee plantations can be restored to their usually healthy condition. The sugar-cane was killed as it stood, so that the loss in this respect is confined to the amount now actually uncut.

Tweed on Civil Service.

I shall never forget the impression made on me by Bill Tweed in Ludlow street jail, a month or two before he died, when I asked him if he had ever thought upon separating the duties of office and the patronage of the same, or, in other words, believed in civil-service reform. "I have thought it over many a time; and it is the only thing that can save this country." He told me that nothing had made a ruined man of him but the infinite demands upon his patronage. As the boss of the city of New York "we had to take everybody in and carry him," said Tweed, "and pay him a salary or perquisites to hush his mouth; and in course of time we became so extended, were carrying so many men at so much expense, that when Judge Barnard took the city treasury away from us in the midst of the panic of 1873 we just had to drop; and no man can run this city for a moderate and respectable sum of money as long as he has to give offices in return for his elevation."—*Gath.*

Littell's Living Age.

The numbers of *The Living Age* for the weeks ending February 26 and March 5 respectively, contain the following articles: John Milton, *Modern Review;* The Moral Influence of George Eliot, and The Unity of Nature, *Contemporary;* Notes on "Endymion," by Lord Houghton, *Fortnightly;* The Moral Element in Literature, *Cornhill;* Village Life of George Eliot, *Fraser;* Frank Buckland, *Macmillan;* The Great Snow-Storm of London, and The New Treaty Between Russia and China, *Spectator;* Antiquarian Traveling in Central France, Among Aldines, the Fall of Lima, and Curling, *Pall-Mall Gazette;* with installments of "Don John," "Visited on the Children," and "Freres," and the usual amount of poetry.

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